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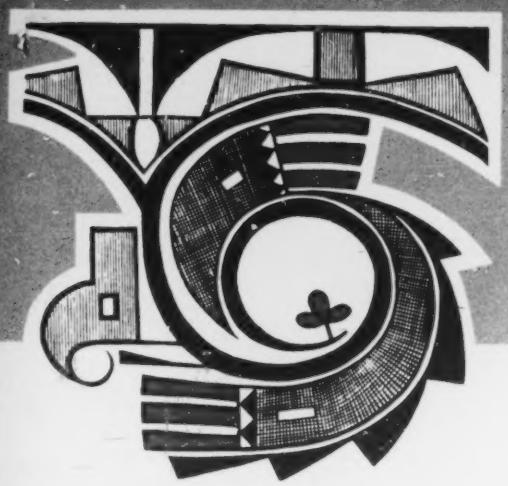

New Mexico Labor Market Review

GARREY CARRUTHERS, GOVERNOR
NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Paul M. Garcia, Secretary
Volume 16, No. 11, December 31, 1987
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The number of unemployed in New Mexico rose rather sharply in November, according to preliminary estimates based largely on the U.S. Department of Labor's household survey, the Current Population Survey. This increase, coupled with a small decline in the number of persons with jobs, resulted in an increase from 8.2 to 8.7 percent in New Mexico's unemployment rate during November. Unemployment can be expected to increase somewhat in November due to seasonal layoffs in areas such as construction, food processing, and lodging places. However, the increase this November is considerably larger than usual, and it erases some of the unemployment improvement posted in recent months. The increased unemployment can be attributed to a rise in the number of persons receiving Unemployment Insurance and a jump in the number of job seekers as measured by the Current Population Survey. Even with the November increase, however, New Mexico's unemployment picture remains improved from one year ago, with approximately 3,000 fewer unemployed than in November 1986. The U.S. unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) in November was 5.6 percent, down slightly from 5.7 percent in October.

The payroll employment estimates for New Mexico, based on an employer survey, showed little overall change in November; however, there were some notable changes at the industry level.

Starting off with the normal seasonal employment swings, job losses occurred in construction, food processing, and in lodging places during November, while, on the plus side, employment increases were posted in state and local government as educational institutions continued to increase payrolls for the fall term.

In mining, approximately 100 jobs were added in oil & gas extraction as the industry continues to gradually revive from the 1985-86 collapse in oil prices. The transportation equipment manufacturing sector showed a 300 decline in November primarily due to a temporary payroll reduction by a major employer in the industry. However, even with this short-term reduction, transportation equipment continues to be one of the fastest growing industries in the state with annual job growth of almost twenty percent. Another employment change worth noting is the job loss over the year in retail trade, under food stores. The food stores industry experienced a banner year in 1986, with sizeable employment increases, especially late in the year. Unfortunately, 1987 estimates have shown an opposite trend, with payroll reductions approaching 700 jobs and more possible in the future, depending on what effect the recent ownership change of Safeway's El Paso division has on industry employment levels.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Nov. 1987	Oct. 1987	Nov. 1986	Oct. 1987	Nov. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	679,300	677,600	681,700	+1,700	-2,400
Employment	620,000	621,900	619,400	-1,900	+ 600
Unemployment	59,300	55,700	62,300	+3,600	-3,000
Rate	8.7%	8.2%	9.1%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM NOV 1987	REVISED OCT 1987	REVISED NOV 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1987	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	540,900	540,700	533,100	200	7,800
MINING	15,700	15,500	15,100	200	600
Metal Mining	2,000	2,000	2,000	0	0
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	3,900	3,800	4,200	100	-300
Oil & Gas Extraction	9,800	9,700	8,900	100	900
CONSTRUCTION	34,300	35,000	35,500	-700	-1,200
MANUFACTURING	39,500	40,500	37,900	-1,000	1,600
DURABLE GOODS	26,100	26,600	24,500	-500	1,600
Lumber & Wood Products	2,900	3,000	2,800	-100	100
Machinery(except electric)	2,700	2,700	2,500	0	200
Elec & Electronic Equip	4,600	4,600	4,300	0	300
Transportation Equipment	5,100	5,400	4,300	-300	800
Other Durable Goods	10,800	10,900	10,600	-100	200
NONDURABLE GOODS	13,400	13,900	13,400	-500	0
Food & Kindred Products	4,200	4,700	4,500	-500	-300
Textile & Apparel	2,500	2,600	2,400	-100	100
Other Nondurable Goods	6,700	6,600	6,500	100	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	29,200	29,100	29,500	100	-300
TRANSPORTATION	13,400	13,400	13,200	0	200
Railroad Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,300	0	-200
Trucking & Warehousing	6,200	6,200	6,000	0	200
Other Transportation	5,100	5,100	4,900	0	200
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,800	15,700	16,300	100	-500
Communication	6,600	6,600	6,800	0	-200
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	9,200	9,100	9,500	100	-300
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	132,100	131,500	129,300	600	2,800
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,500	22,600	22,500	-100	0
Durable Goods	13,500	13,500	13,300	0	200
Nondurable Goods	9,000	9,100	9,200	-100	-200
RETAIL TRADE	109,600	108,900	106,800	700	2,800
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,500	4,500	4,400	0	100
General Merchandise Stores	14,200	13,800	12,900	400	1,300
Food Stores	15,600	15,500	16,300	100	-700
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,400	13,700	13,300	-300	100
Apparel & Accessories	5,700	5,500	5,700	200	0
Furniture & Furnishing	4,700	4,600	4,500	100	200
Eating & Drinking Places	39,000	38,800	37,500	200	1,500
Miscellaneous Retail	12,500	12,500	12,200	0	300
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	27,500	27,300	26,900	200	600
Banking	8,000	8,000	8,000	0	0
Insurance Carriers	3,900	3,800	3,700	100	200
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	3,000	2,900	2,900	100	100
Real Estate	6,600	6,600	6,400	0	200
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,000	6,000	5,900	0	100
SERVICES	121,800	122,100	117,400	-300	4,400
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	11,900	12,300	11,700	-400	200
Personal Services	6,000	6,000	5,800	0	200
Business Services	29,000	29,200	27,400	-200	1,600
Health Services	30,300	30,100	29,600	200	700
Legal Services	4,100	4,100	4,000	0	100
Educational Services	5,200	5,200	5,200	0	0
Social Services	6,200	6,200	6,300	0	-100
Membership Organizations	6,600	6,700	6,100	-100	500
Other Services	22,500	22,300	21,300	200	1,200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	140,800	139,700	141,500	1,100	-700
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	31,100	31,100	29,400	0	1,700
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	109,700	108,600	112,100	1,100	-2,400
State Government 2/	47,200	46,600	53,100	600	-5,900
Local Government	62,500	62,000	59,000	500	3,500

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

Following the statewide trend shown in November, unemployment in Albuquerque also experienced an increase during the month. The area's unemployment rate climbed to 6.9%, while the number of persons looking for work increased by 1,300 to total 18,000 in November. Although November's jobless rate is the highest in almost two years, the city continues to be one of the most stable areas of the state. Albuquerque's unemployment rate has varied by less than one percentage point since mid-1985.

Delayed seasonal layoffs may have been one factor which contributed to the rather large increase in the number of unemployed during the month. The employer payroll-based employment estimates indicate that some reductions in construction and food processing which normally occur in October did not show up until November.

Total Nonagricultural employment between October and November was up by 700 jobs, with the remaining industries holding close to normal seasonal patterns.

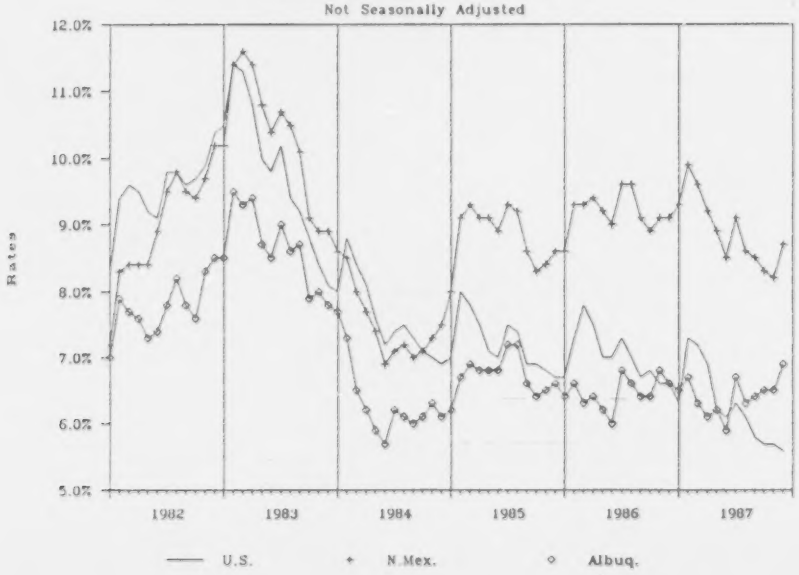
Total nonfarm employment grew by 4,800 jobs over the last twelve months. This represented modest growth of 2.1 percent, slightly less than experienced in 1986. For comparisons purposes, the largest annual job growth rate posted so far in this decade was in 1984, when payroll jobs in the Albuquerque area grew by almost seven percent. Over the last year, the area's largest industries, trade and services, have led the way with gains of appproximately four percent each. The finance, insurance, and real estate industry has posted annual job growth above three percent, while manufacturing has recorded a somewhat smaller increase of 1.5 percent. Both construction and government continue to show fewer jobs in 1987 than in 1986.

Almost half of the job growth in services in 1987 has occurred in the business subsector. The rise in the number of employees working for temporary help employers has accounted for much of the increase. This recent phenomenon of using temporary help personnel rather than regular employees also has the effect of reducing employment gains or possibly even causing job losses in other industries.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Nov. 1987	Oct. 1987	Nov. 1986	Oct. 1987	Nov. 1986
Civilian Labor Force	261,300	258,300	258,600	+3,000	+2,700
Employment	243,300	241,600	241,600	+1,700	+1,700
Unemployment	18,000	16,700	17,000	+1,300	+1,000
Rate	6.9%	6.5%	6.6%		

Unemployment Rates

Not Seasonally Adjusted



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM NOV 1987	REVISED OCT 1987	REVISED NOV 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1987	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	234,400	233,700	229,600	700	4,800
MINING	200	200	200	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	16,500	16,900	17,200	-400	-700
MANUFACTURING	19,900	19,900	19,600	0	300
Durable Goods	14,200	14,100	14,100	100	100
Nondurable Goods	5,700	5,800	5,500	-100	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,600	12,600	12,500	0	100
Transportation	6,200	6,200	6,200	0	0
Communication	3,800	3,800	3,700	0	100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,600	2,600	2,600	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	61,600	60,900	59,300	700	2,300
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,300	14,200	14,000	100	300
Durable Goods	9,800	9,700	9,500	100	300
Nondurable Goods	4,500	4,500	4,500	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	47,300	46,700	45,300	600	2,000
General Merchandise Stores	5,800	5,600	5,100	200	700
Food Stores	4,900	4,900	5,200	0	-300
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	5,000	5,100	4,900	-100	100
Eating & Drinking Places	17,900	17,700	17,100	200	800
Other Retail Trade	13,700	13,400	13,000	300	700
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	15,000	15,000	14,500	0	500
Banking	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	200
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,400	4,300	4,100	100	300
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	7,300	7,400	7,300	-100	0
SERVICES	63,400	63,600	60,800	-200	2,600
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	3,900	4,000	3,700	-100	200
Personal Services	3,100	3,100	3,100	0	0
Business Services	20,900	21,000	19,700	-100	1,200
Health Services	14,600	14,600	14,100	0	500
Social Services	2,900	2,900	2,800	0	100
Membership Organizations	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
Other Services	16,400	16,400	15,800	0	600
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	45,200	44,600	45,500	600	-300
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	13,000	13,100	12,500	-100	500
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	32,200	31,500	33,000	700	-800
State Government	11,700	11,100	13,500	600	-1,800
Local Government	20,500	20,400	19,500	100	1,000

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM NOV 1987	REVISED OCT 1987	REVISED NOV 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1987	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	39,800	40,050	41,600	-250	-1,800
MINING	50	50	50	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,600	2,800	2,600	-200	0
MANUFACTURING	3,100	3,400	3,300	-300	-200
Durable Goods	1,200	1,300	1,200	-100	0
Nondurable Goods	1,900	2,100	2,100	-200	-200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,300	1,250	1,400	50	-100
Transportation	500	500	550	0	-50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	800	750	850	50	-50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	8,000	8,000	7,950	0	50
WHOLESALE TRADE	800	850	850	-50	-50
RETAIL TRADE	7,200	7,150	7,100	50	100
General Merchandise Stores	950	900	950	50	0
Food Stores	1,050	1,050	1,100	0	-50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	1,000	1,050	850	-50	150
Eating & Drinking Places	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0
Other Retail Trade	1,500	1,450	1,500	50	0
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,600	1,650	1,550	-50	50
SERVICES	6,450	6,400	6,050	50	400
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	800	800	750	0	50
Business Services	1,400	1,350	1,050	50	350
Health Services	1,750	1,750	1,700	0	50
Social Services	300	300	250	0	50
Other Services	2,200	2,200	2,300	0	-100
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	16,700	16,500	18,700	200	-2,000
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,200	4,200	4,300	0	-100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	12,500	12,300	14,400	200	-1,900
State Government	7,100	7,000	9,300	100	-2,200
Local Government	5,400	5,300	5,100	100	300

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM NOV 1987	REVISED OCT 1987	REVISED NOV 1986	NOV CHANGE FROM OCT 1987	NOV CHANGE FROM NOV 1986
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	54,750	54,650	53,800	100	950
MINING	50	50	100	0	-50
CONSTRUCTION	3,100	3,200	3,300	-100	-200
MANUFACTURING	1,650	1,650	1,600	0	50
Durable Goods	1,050	1,050	1,000	0	50
Nondurable Goods	600	600	600	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,150	1,150	1,150	0	0
Transportation	450	450	400	0	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	700	700	750	0	-50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11,400	11,100	10,600	300	800
WHOLESALE TRADE	700	700	700	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	10,700	10,400	9,900	300	800
General Merchandise Stores	1,150	1,100	1,000	50	150
Food Stores	1,950	1,900	1,800	50	150
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	800	800	800	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	4,100	4,000	3,800	100	300
Other Retail Trade	2,700	2,600	2,500	100	200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	2,200	2,200	2,100	0	100
SERVICES	14,000	14,100	13,250	-100	750
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	1,900	2,000	1,850	-100	50
Business Services	3,100	3,100	3,000	0	100
Health Services	3,100	3,100	3,000	0	100
Social Services	600	600	600	0	0
Other Services	5,300	5,300	4,800	0	500
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	21,200	21,200	21,700	0	-500
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,600	1,600	1,600	0	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	19,600	19,600	20,100	0	-500
State Government 3/	15,600	15,600	16,200	0	-600
Local Government	4,000	4,000	3,900	0	100

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.
2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
3/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	NOV 1987	OCT 1987	NOV 1986	NOV 1987	OCT 1987	NOV 1986	NOV 1987	OCT 1987	NOV 1986
MINING	$510.34	$505.39	$505.66	44.3	44.1	40.1	11.52	11.46	12.61
CONSTRUCTION	$430.17	$432.63	$444.69	39.0	39.8	36.6	11.03	10.87	12.15
MANUFACTURING	$347.81	$356.49	$349.44	39.3	40.1	39.8	8.85	8.89	8.78
Durable Goods	$364.00	$376.48	$359.04	40.4	41.6	40.8	9.01	9.05	8.80
Nondurable Goods	$306.12	$307.58	$327.87	36.4	36.4	37.6	8.41	8.45	8.72
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$564.48	$574.74	$566.16	42.0	42.7	42.0	13.44	13.46	13.48
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$216.09	$219.07	$214.11	32.3	32.6	32.1	6.69	6.72	6.67
Wholesale Trade	$379.76	$387.45	$366.81	40.4	41.0	39.4	9.40	9.45	9.31
Retail Trade	$184.20	$187.24	$185.12	30.7	31.0	30.7	6.00	6.04	6.03
BANKING	$229.36	$224.32	$239.95	37.6	37.7	40.6	6.10	5.95	5.91
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	NOV 1987	OCT 1987	NOV 1986	NOV 1987	OCT 1987	NOV 1986	NOV 1987	OCT 1987	NOV 1986
MANUFACTURING	$371.28	$376.89	$366.51	40.8	41.1	40.1	9.10	9.17	9.14
Durable Goods	$393.01	$400.68	$383.05	41.5	42.0	41.1	9.47	9.54	9.32
Nondurable Goods	$309.16	$303.31	$312.91	38.5	38.2	36.9	8.03	7.94	8.48

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

	Nov. 1987	Oct. 1987	Nov. 1986	Percent Change Oct.'87-Nov.'87	Percent Change Nov.'86-Nov.'87
CPI-U	345.8	345.3	330.8	+0.1%	+4.5%
CPI-W	340.4	340.0	325.4	+0.1%	+4.6%

Index Base Year 1967 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Area Economic Activity

Statewide: New Mexico is no longer in the running for the Supercollider, according to the institution making the site recommendations. The National Academy of Sciences recommended Texas, Arizona, Colorado, Tennessee, New York, Illinois, Michigan and North Carolina as potential sites for the $4.4 billion atom-smasher. There is still hope that Sematech will select New Mexico for its new research facility; officials say they will make their final selection on January 7. New Mexico is one of 12 states being considered. Sematech is an organization, supported by both the federal government and the computer chip industry. Sematech will employ between 700 to 800 researchers at the new facility.

Albuquerque Area: A $5.5 million shopping center has opened on Wyoming N.E. just south of Montgomery. The 42,000-square-foot shopping center was built on 2.7 acres which were formerly occupied by Los Altos Twin Theaters. HomeClub Inc. opened a warehouse-style discount home improvement center in December. The 113,900-square-foot center will employ more than 100 people. After several meetings, hearings, and discussions, the Bernalillo Town Council voted to annex 67 acres of land northwest of town; the land was then zoned to allow the construction of a wallboard plant. Centex American Gypsum Co. plans to build a $25 million wallboard plant which could employ about 90 people. A construction start-up date for the plant has not been determined. Although they have not made a final selection, the Sheraton Corp. has decided to build a destination resort in the Albuquerque area. The resort will include a hotel, restaurants and a 36-hole golf course. The sites being considered are in Rio Rancho, the east side of the Sandias, and halfway between Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

Alamogordo / Ruidoso Area: Dyncorp, a Fort Worth, Texas-based firm, was recently awarded a $104 million contract to maintain aircraft at Holloman Air Force Base. The contract will have the affect of replacing approximately 900 Air Force workers and 100 civil service government employees currently performing aircraft maintenance work with about 650 private sector employees. The contract will have a ninety-day phase in period beginning February 1, 1988. According to Dyncorp officials, the company will be using aircraft electricians; weapons, sheet metal, and hydraulics technicians; and office workers for the new contract, and hiring will be handled through the local New Mexico Department of Labor office.

Belen / Socorro Area: Avonite, a California manufacturer of solid surfacing material, plans to relocate to Rio Grande Industrial Park in Rio Communities. The company should break ground on a 132,000-square-foot facility by early 1988. Avonite is expected to provide more than 100 jobs initially, and several hundred in the future. The company manufactures a product which looks like granite, marble or onyx and is used on counter tops, desks, wall coverings, furniture and floors. An Army laboratory has finished environmental studies and still recommends that a blast testing facility, with a $2 million per year operating budget, be build at the Stallion site southeast of Socorro on White Sands Missile Range. The U.S. Army first picked Stallion as its favored site for the Large Blast Thermal Simulator last summer even before the environmental studies had been completed. The recommendation now goes to the Army and the Defense Nuclear Agency for final approval, and construction could begin on the facility by late 1989.

Carlsbad / Artesia Area: The Department of Energy (DOE) is soliciting bids from commercial trucking companies interested in hauling transuranic radioactive waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) near Carlsbad. Now under construction, the WIPP project is scheduled to receive waste in late 1988 from DOE facilities around the nation. DOE will determine which firms are in the competitive range sometime in February, and the final selection is expected by the end of March.

Clovis / Portales Area: Santa Fe Railway's division offices in Clovis will shut down and consolidate in Albuquerque by the end of 1988. The closure will eliminate approximately 70 jobs in Clovis, representing an annual payroll of $3.1 million, according to Santa Fe officials. Santa Fe will continue its day-to-day railway operations in Clovis, and the railway will continue to employ a workforce of about 400 in the area. A San Antonio, Texas firm, Associated Milk Producers, Inc., is interested in

leasing the closed Clovis Milk Plant for the purpose of manufacturing cheese and powdered milk products. The firm is expected to announce a decision on the milk plant in the near future. West Texas Ethanol, a Clovis-based ethanol by-product manufacturing firm, has received $42,000 in training funds from the state Economic Development and Tourism Department to train 26 individuals in ethanol production.

Espanola Area: Work has begun on a physical education complex at Northern New Mexico Community College. The $2.75 million complex will include a gymnasium with seating for 2,000 people, an auxiliary gymnasium, and administrative offices. A Silver City contractor, James Hamilton Construction, has submitted the low bid of $6.2 million for widening a section of NM 4 and building a new bridge over the Rio Grande at Otowi.

Farmington Area: A Denver company which manufactures pressure regulators and quick release valves for truck braking systems has relocated to the Shiprock area. Mechanical Specialties Inc. has moved into the plant formerly occupied by Fairchild which had been vacant for 13 years. The 54,600-square-foot plant, which is owned by the Navajo Tribe, will be renovated to accommodate the company. The company currently employs ten people and plans to have a total of 100 employees within six months and about 300 within the next year.

Gallup Area: Santa Fe Railway intends to move 115 brakemen, engineers, firemen, and conductors currently stationed in Gallup to Winslow, Arizona. The transfers are the result of an effort by the Railway to save money by cutting back the number of line divisions from eleven to six.

Hobbs / Lovington Area: A San Marcos, Texas firm plans to open a hardware store and lumber yard in Hobbs by March. McCoy's Building Supplies is negotiating for a site for its new store which will employ about 10 persons. Furr's Inc. officials announced plans to construct a new Food Emporium in Hobbs, starting sometime during the next six months. Oil drilling activity in the Permian Basin reached its highest level for the year to date in early December with 190 operating rigs. One year ago, the Basin had 134 working rigs. Lea County accounted for 34 working units, Eddy County had 10, while Chaves County reported no activity for the period.

Las Cruces Area: Construction has started on a 18,000-square-foot office and classroom facility at Las Cruces International Airport for the North American Institute of Aviation training school. The new aviation school is expected to be in operation by May, and the facility will employ 40 to 50 workers and train up to 250 students per year. Two garment manufacturing companies have announced plans to start up operations in the Las Cruces area. Dona Fashions will open a manufacturing operation in January in the Las Cruces facility formerly occupied by Farah Manufacturing. Dona Fashions is expected to employ 40-50 garment cutters and seamstresses in the new plant. Cloud Country Enterprises, a leather products manufacturing firm, is opening a plant in the Sunland Park area which should employ up to 40 workers, according to company officials.

Roswell Area: Transportation Manufacturing Corporation has agreed to an open-ended contract with Great Southwest Aviation Company to strip paint off the nearly 250 bus shells acquired when TMC purchased the Transit Bus Division from General Motors Corporation. Employment estimates due to the new contract were not disclosed.

Santa Fe Area: First Interstate Bank of Santa Fe is reducing its payroll as part of a streamlining of bank operations. The bank now has 128 full time positions, down from 156 early in 1987. Additional layoffs are expected in 1988. A group of Santa Fe physicians plan to build a $5.2 million diagnostic imaging center on Hospital Drive near St. Vincent Hospital. The 15,000 square-foot center should be operational by late next summer. The center is expected to employ about 20 people.

Silver City Area: Mining operations have begun at the new Cyprus-Goldfield mine in Pinos Altos. Approximately 25 workers are employed at the underground operation, and the mine is expected to produce 100,000 tons of ore per year over the next three years. The ore from the new mine is being processed at a Goldfield's concentrator at Winston in Sierra County. The mine's first ore shipments have produced copper, gold, and silver mineralization.

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY NOVEMBER 1987				REVISED OCTOBER 1987				REVISED NOVEMBER 1986			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	679,336	620,013	59,323	8.7%	677,575	621,869	55,706	8.2%	681,619	619,355	62,264	9.1%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	261,300	243,290	18,010	6.9%	258,313	241,589	16,724	6.5%	258,622	241,583	17,039	6.6%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	56,558	52,115	4,443	7.9%	57,386	52,971	4,415	7.7%	57,985	54,052	3,933	6.8%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	64,957	61,402	3,555	5.5%	65,658	62,131	3,527	5.4%	64,947	61,346	3,601	5.5%
Catron	1,192	1,053	139	11.7%	1,270	1,158	112	8.8%	1,148	964	184	16.0%
Chaves	22,489	20,664	1,825	8.1%	22,374	20,739	1,635	7.3%	22,819	20,658	2,161	9.5%
Cibola	9,076	7,976	1,100	12.1%	8,752	7,722	1,030	11.8%	8,512	7,123	1,389	16.3%
Colfax	6,388	5,663	725	11.3%	6,495	5,768	727	11.2%	6,597	5,652	945	14.3%
Curry	16,799	15,287	1,512	9.0%	16,661	15,341	1,320	7.9%	17,741	16,288	1,453	8.2%
De Baca	865	779	86	9.9%	899	825	74	8.2%	973	866	107	11.0%
Eddy	20,208	17,973	2,235	11.1%	20,283	18,040	2,243	11.1%	22,013	19,211	2,802	12.7%
Grant	10,249	9,259	990	9.7%	10,264	9,296	968	9.4%	9,859	8,786	1,073	10.9%
Guadalupe	1,605	1,343	262	16.3%	1,660	1,412	248	14.9%	1,686	1,432	254	15.1%
Harding	391	338	53	13.6%	416	372	44	10.6%	512	450	62	12.1%
Hidalgo	2,328	2,134	194	8.3%	2,352	2,191	161	6.8%	2,526	2,388	138	5.5%
Lea	22,130	20,096	2,034	9.2%	21,952	20,011	1,941	8.8%	25,216	21,714	3,502	13.9%
Lincoln	6,690	6,132	558	8.3%	6,901	6,460	441	6.4%	7,084	6,467	617	8.7%
Luna	5,829	4,998	831	14.3%	5,936	5,237	699	11.8%	5,782	4,841	941	16.3%
McKinley	17,154	14,902	2,252	13.1%	17,132	15,009	2,123	12.4%	17,149	14,739	2,410	14.1%
Mora	1,322	910	412	31.2%	1,319	959	360	27.3%	1,269	799	470	37.0%
Otero	18,418	16,957	1,461	7.9%	18,422	16,943	1,479	8.0%	17,813	16,410	1,403	7.9%
Quay	4,559	4,101	458	10.0%	4,517	4,125	392	8.7%	4,534	4,136	398	8.8%
Rio Arriba	13,371	10,909	2,462	18.4%	13,182	10,985	2,197	16.7%	13,158	10,622	2,536	19.3%
Roosevelt	7,852	7,327	525	6.7%	7,817	7,493	324	4.1%	7,577	7,154	423	5.6%
Sandoval	24,395	22,297	2,098	8.6%	24,502	22,585	1,917	7.8%	22,867	20,762	2,105	9.2%
San Juan	34,221	29,699	4,522	13.2%	33,958	29,528	4,430	13.0%	34,945	29,535	5,410	15.5%
San Miguel	9,816	8,562	1,254	12.8%	9,882	8,706	1,176	11.9%	10,175	8,935	1,240	12.2%
Sierra	2,500	2,328	172	6.9%	2,624	2,446	178	6.8%	2,565	2,324	241	9.4%
Socorro	5,903	5,264	639	10.8%	5,822	5,267	555	9.5%	5,946	5,358	588	9.9%
Taos	10,173	7,709	2,464	24.2%	9,917	7,604	2,313	23.3%	9,661	6,935	2,726	28.2%
Torrance	3,402	3,005	397	11.7%	3,416	3,049	367	10.7%	3,194	2,814	380	11.9%
Union	1,977	1,858	119	6.0%	2,051	1,918	133	6.5%	2,083	1,908	175	8.4%
Valencia	15,219	13,683	1,536	10.1%	15,442	13,989	1,453	9.4%	14,661	13,103	1,558	10.6%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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